

Message Text

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ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AF-10 ARA-10 CIAE-00
DODE-00 EA-07 EUR-12 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 IO-13
L-03 NASA-01 NEA-10 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OIC-02 SP-02
PA-01 PRS-01 OES-07 SS-15 USIA-06 NRC-05 /139 W
-----129743 131144Z /15

R 121658Z AUG 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0270
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
ASMISSION NATO 4539
USMISSION USUN NY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PARM, CCD

SUBJ: CCD: AUGUST 11, 1977 INFORMAL MEETING WITH EXPERTS ON
MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW)

1. SUMMARY: IN AUG 11 CCD INFORMAL MEETING WITH EXPERTS ON NEW
MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW), HUNGARIAN STATEMENTS PRAISED
SOVIET PROPOSAL, WHICH WAS CRITICIZED AS VAGUE AND UNNECESSARY
BY EXPERTS OF SWEDEN AND US. END SUMMARY.

2. HUNGARIAN REP (DOMOKOS) PRAISED SOVIET FLEXIBILITY IN PRE-
SENTING A MODIFIED MDW DRAFT TREATY, AS WELL AS THE LIST OF
SPECIFIC EXAMPLES IN THE ANNEX AND SOVIET ACCEPTANCE OF THE
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IDEA OF CONCLUDING SEPARATE AGREEMENTS RELATING TO SPECIFIC
TYPES OF NEW MDW. HUNGARIAN EXPERT (SZENTESI) COVERED ESSEN-
TIALY THE SAME GROUND, MENTIONING THAT GREAT SCIENTIFIC
ADVANCES HAVE OCCURRED IN THE LAST THIRTY YEARS AND THAT THUS
IT IS NECESSARY TO REVISE AND EXPAND THE 1948 DEFINITION FOR-
MULATED BY THE UN COMMISSION FOR CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENTS. HUN-
GARIAN EXPERT REFERRED TO HYPERSONIC AIRCRAFT AS POSSIBLE NEW

SYSTEM FOR DELIVERY OF MDW.

3. SWEDISH EXPERT (LUNDIN) WELCOMED SOVIET ACCEPTANCE OF THE CONCEPT OF SEPARATE AGREEMENTS FOR SPECIFICALLY IDENTIFIED NEW TYPES OF MDW, AND EXPRESSED WHOLEHEARTED SUPPORT FOR THE UK PROPOSAL FOR A UNGA RESOLUTION ON MDW WHICH COULD BE ADOPTED BY CONSENSUS. STATING THAT SOVIET AND EASTERN EUROPEAN EXPERTS HAD DESCRIBED HYPOTHETICAL DANGERS BUT HAD PRESENTED NO EVIDENCE FOR THE USEFULNESS OF THESE TECHNOLOGIES AS WEAPONS, SWEDISH EXPERT STATED THAT IT IS TOO EARLY TO CONSIDER A TREATY BANNING ALL NEW MDW, AND THAT NO REALISTIC POSSIBILITIES FOR MDW HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED SINCE THE 1948 DEFINITION. THE BEST COURSE, HE SAID, WOULD BE FOR CCD TO KEEP THE QUESTION OF NEW MDW UNDER REVIEW, SO THAT IF A PARTICULAR POTENTIAL MDW WERE IDENTIFIED THEN AN APPROPRIATE AGREEMENT COULD BE CONCLUDED RAPIDELY.

4. US EXPERT (BUCHHEIM) STATED THAT RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS (RW), THE FIRST OF THE FOUR EXAMPLES LISTED IN THE ANNEX TO THE SOVIET DRAFT MDW TREATY, IS CLEARLY AN MDW AND WAS SO IDENTIFIED IN THE 1948 UN DEFINITION--WHICH REFERS TO "RADIOACTIVE MATERIAL WEAPONS". THUS RW, HAVING BEEN IDENTIFIED AS LONG AGO AS 1948, IS NOT A NEW TYPE OF MDW. US EXPERT REITERATED US VIEW, AS STATED AT THE 31ST UNGA, THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO MAKE RW SUBJECT TO AN APPROPRIATE ARMS LIMITATION AGREEMENT.

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5. WITH REGARD TO OTHER THREE SOVIET EXAMPLES (INFRA-SOUND ACOUSTIC WAVES, ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES, AND CHARGED OR NEUTRAL PARTICLES), US EXPERT STATED THAT "WE FIND NO CURRENT BASIS FOR IDENTIFYING ANY OF THESE THREE EXAMPLES AS A BASIS FOR A WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION."

6. EMPHASIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE COMPARABILITY CRITERION STATED IN THE 1948 DEFINITION, US EXPERT SAID IT IS NOT AT ALL SURPRISING THAT NO NEW TYPE OF MDW HAS BEEN DISCOVERED SINCE 1948. CONCLUDING, US EXPERT STATED THAT "WE WOULD EXPECT THE EMERGENCE OF A NEW TYPE OF WEAPON OF MASS DESTRUCTION TO BE A RARE EVENT. IT IS CERTAINLY NOT DISAPPOINTING THAT NO NEW TYPE HAS ARISEN IN RECENT TIMES."

7. FOURTH INFORMAL MEETING ON NEW MDW WAS SCHEDULED FOR 10:30 AM, FRIDAY, AUGUST 12. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, PLANNING MEETINGS, CONSULTANTS, MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS, MDW
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 12-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Format: TEL
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770868/aaaacfoe.tel
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Litigation History:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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